

# PBDE End-of-Life Advisory Committee

March 15, 2006

# Objectives

- An evaluation of current end-of-life practices
- A fair process where diverse points of view are represented and considered
- A set of recommendations that reduce the threats posed from disposal, recycling or re-use of PBDE containing products

# Expected Outcomes

- Recommendations to Ecology and Local Health Departments regarding management of products containing PBDEs at the end of product life
- Rules are a likely outcome, legislation less so

# Why an End-of-Life Process?

- Millions of pounds of PBDEs have been used in products that will eventually be thrown away
- PBDEs have been found in everything from polar bears to human breast milk to house dust
- The mechanism for these releases to the environment are poorly understood
- End-of-life practices may contribute to the release of PBDEs to the environment

# What this process is and is not

- Not an extension of the PBT rule process
- Not an extension of the PBDE CAP process
- Is Implementation of a PBDE CAP recommendation

# What is “end-of-life”?

- end of useful life of a product by its first purchaser
- Includes:
  - Disposal
  - Recycling
  - reuse

# Fundamental Question

Do current end-of-life practices for products containing PBDEs adequately protect human health and the environment?

# Focus Areas

- Landfills
  - Auto Fluff
- Recycling
  - Electronics
  - Foam
- Re-Use
  - Biosolids
  - Upholstered furniture

# Key Issues

- How will we decide if a current practice is not adequate?
- Are there specific PBDE containing waste streams that should be handled differently?
- Should recycling or re-use practices be modified to protect workers or sensitive populations?